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PATRICIA L. CARUSO OFFICER RECRUIT TRAINING CLASS GRADUATION

On February 7, 2014, the Patricia L. Caruso Officer Recruit Training Class graduated. The class was comprised of 153 officer recruits who have been placed in correctional facilities throughout the state. The Patricia L. Caruso Class is unique from those of past classes because members of this class are correctional staff from food services, health care and Michigan State Industries who were displaced. The correctional background that members of this class already possess puts each officer recruit in an excellent position for success as a Corrections Officer.

Patricia L. Caruso spent 23 years with the Department including nine years as a warden and nearly eight years as the Director. She retired from the Department on January 1, 2011.

Three members of the Patricia L. Caruso Class were recipients of class awards:

- Sebastian Martin was the recipient of the Josephine B. McCallum Award for excellence and leadership,
- Anita Holmes was the recipient of the Jack L. Budd Award for determination and effort, and
- Stephen Jones was the recipient of the Academic Achievement Award for outstanding academic performance among all officer recruits.

The Department wishes the Patricia L. Caruso Class the best of luck in their new endeavors as Corrections Officers.



R to L: Dir. Dan Heyns, Ofc. Anita Holmes, Ofc. Sebastian Martin, Ofc. Stephen Jones, and MDOC Dir. Patricia Caruso.

THREE RIVERS PAROLE SEARCH UNCOVERS METHAMPHETAMINE AND WEAPONS

Last month, Three River's Parole Agents Bobbi Newland and Jeb Miller coordinated and conducted an Operation Night Hawk parole search in Three Rivers with the St. Joseph County Sheriff's Office. During the search, the officers found methamphetamine and weapons in the parolees' homes. Due to the interagency coordination that Agents Newland and Miller spearheaded, the Operation Night Hawk parole search resulted with arrests of five offenders under the Department's jurisdiction.

NINE PAROLE VIOLATORS ARRESTED IN CALHOUN COUNTY SWEEP

Embedded Parole Agent Erin DeLoof coordinated a collation of officers from several law enforcement departments to conduct a parolee compliance sweep in Calhoun County. Compliance checks are conducted to ensure that parolees are abiding by their conditions of parole. Additionally, parole agents are always looking for firearms, drugs, and alcohol, and to verify that a parolee is residing at his or her approved housing placement.

Calhoun County Parole Agents Ryan Gray, Jarrett Hale, Aaron Hudecheck, Melisa Rice, Gwen Thomas, Tracie Vierk, and Eric Sundberg conducted the unannounced checks on roughly a third of the parolees that live in Calhoun County. As a result of this sweep, nine parolees were found to not be in compliance and were arrested. Several parolees were arrested due to possessing firearms and/or ammunition, one parolee was found in possession of marijuana, one sex offender possessed a computer, and an absconder from another county was apprehended as well.

LAW ENFORCEMENT NIGHT AT COMERICA PARK

On Monday, April 21, 2014, the Detroit Tigers will host Law Enforcement Night at Comerica Park. The Detroit Tigers are scheduled to play against the Chicago White Sox, and the game begins at 7:08 p.m. Three seat locations are available: \$29 for Mezzanine Package, \$37 for Upper Box In-field Package, and \$44 for Lower Baseline Box Package. Each package includes one ticket, a \$10 donation to the National Law Enforcement Museum, and a Law Enforcement Team Challenge Coin. To order tickets visit: www.tigers.com/law. For additional information, or to order 15 or more tickets, please contact Kate Walker at kate.walker@detroitigers.com.



LIFESAVING AWARDS PRESENTED FOR EXCEPTIONAL ACTS

Prisoner Assault: On July 11, 2010, Resident Unit Officer (RUO) Douglas Rodd responded to a prisoner assault that was occurring in a housing unit at the Mound Correctional Facility. Two prisoners were assaulting another prisoner. RUO Rodd secured the prisoner that was kicking the victim in the legs and back, placed him in restraints and returned to the scene of the assault. Upon his return, he observed that the second prisoner was stabbing the assault victim with a home-made weapon. RUO Patrick Burson was able to distract the assaultive prisoner at which time RUO Rodd was able to subdue the prisoner and apprehend the home-made weapon. The prisoner that was assault received 28 stab wounds. Due to RUO Rodd's quick and professional response, he surely played a significant role in saving the assault victim's life.



R to L: Bus. Mgr. Mark Rudd, DDC/DRC Warden Anthony Stewart, Dir. Dan Heyns, Ofc. Douglas Rodd and DRC Dep. Warden Willis Chapman

Aiding Fellow Staff: On December 26, 2012, Lieutenant Vicki Close noticed that Officer James Pettit was unresponsive on the ground outside of the Captain's office at the Saginaw Correctional Facility. Lt. Close immediately called for assistance. Community Program Coordinator (CPC) Daniel Hoffman and Officer Jill Stephen responded to the call for assistance. Officer Stephen brought the AED

which was applied while Lt. Close and CPC Hoffman began chest compressions on Officer Pettit. Registered Nurse (RN) Kate Leffingwell began administering rescue breathing while Nurse Supervisor Sarah Alton monitored Officer Pettit's vital signs. Officer Stephen administered two AED shocks as advised, and after the second AED shock, Officer Pettit began to breathe on his own. The swift and decisive responses of Lt. Close, CPC Hoffman, Officer Stephen, RN Kate Leffingwell, and Nurse Supervisor Sarah Alton saved Officer Pettit's life.



R to L: Comm. Prgm. Coord. Dan Hoffman, Reg. Nurse Kate Leffingwell, Dir. Dan Heyns, Asst. Dep. Dir. Mike Curley, Reg. Nurse Sarah Alton, Ofc. James Pettit, Ofc. Jill Stephen, Lt. Vicki Close and Warden Lloyd Rapelje

MDOC NEEDS YOUR HELP RECRUITING CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

MDOC Officer Recruits have often come from referrals by our Corrections staff. I am asking for the assistance of all MDOC employees in encouraging interested family members and friends to consider a career in Corrections. Corrections remains a career with a future. Starting pay of \$16.00/hr quickly progresses to \$24.51/hr and promotional opportunities are growing as more staff retire. In the next 5 years, there are projected to be 2,500 Corrections Officer vacancies alone.

If you know anyone who is interested in a career with the MDOC or criminal justice in general, please introduce them to our process and give them our information. We have listed the current qualifications with the changes noted below. To shorten the process, you will note that a **Civil Service Exam is no longer required**. If there are any questions, please contact our Recruitment Office at 517-335-6711 or 1-888-820-7129. Thank you for helping to ensure that the Department has the best possibility for a great future.



REQUIREMENTS FOR CORRECTIONS OFFICER:

- ◆ 18 years of age
- ◆ High School Diploma or G.E.D.
- ◆ Education
 - 15 semester (or 23 term) college credit hours in Corrections, Criminal Justice, Psychology, Sociology, Family Relations, Guidance and Counseling, Pastoral Counseling, Social Work or Law Enforcement, **OR**
 - Possession of 30 semester (or 45 term) college credits in any academic area, **OR**
 - Possession of a Joint Service Transcript (Military Personnel)
- ◆ Apply through **NEOGOV** at website listed below
- ◆ Interview and Physical Fitness Test
- ◆ Background Check
- ◆ Physical, Pulmonary Function Test, Drug Screen, TB tests (applicant pays cost)

Following completion of the above REQUIREMENTS, candidates will be issued a CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY to enroll in an 8-week TRAINING PROGRAM at a participating College or University.

CURRENT PARTICIPATING COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

- ◆ Jackson College
- ◆ Mott Community College
- ◆ Lake Superior State University
- ◆ Bay de Noc Community College

8-WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM

- ◆ Tuition-based/college credit granted (recruit pays cost)
- ◆ Meals, travel and room/lodging expense (recruit pays cost)
- ◆ First 6 weeks (unpaid status)
- ◆ **Once applicant successfully completes the first 6 weeks, they are eligible to be hired by the MDOC for the final two weeks of the Training Program (paid employee status with final two weeks of travel cost reimbursed).**

HOW TO APPLY: Applications are available at www.michigan.gov/statejobs

MDOC Recruitment Main Line: 517-335-6711

MDOC Recruitment Email: corrrecrmnt@michigan.gov



KENT COUNTY PAROLE OFFICE REPRESENT AT THE 2014 TURK LAKE POLAR PLUNGE



*R to L: Dave Hosfelt (Ironman), Bill Decker (Jim the Anvil Neidhart),
Matt Alles (Thor), Jason Wayne (Beetlejuice), Zachery Grutter (Leprechaun),
Glenn Gomery (Babe the Blue Ox), Seam Wheeler (Hulk), Paul Dykema (Paul Bunyan),
Amy Tracy (Flo from Progressive), Jon Timmers (Captain America)
and Jim Wilson (Hulk Hogan)*

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

The Turk Lake Polar Plunge, which took place in February of this year, began over six years ago when correctional staff from the Ionia facilities organized the area's first polar plunge. MDOC staff involved in the inception of this event could never have imagined it would grow into such a large wonderful winter tradition. Polar Plungers from the MDOC, Michigan State Police, Fraternal Order of Police, local citizens, schools and community groups raised over \$55,000 which will be donated to the Special Olympics of Michigan to support programs that serve 19,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities.

This year, 173 polar plungers participated in zany costumes while approximately 1,000 spectators attended to lend support to the plungers. Eleven staff from the Kent County Parole office participated in this year's Turk Lake Polar Plunge raising over \$10,000! For the second year in a row, the team was recognized for most money raised by a law enforcement organization. Parole Agent Bill Decker was recognized for most money raised by an individual with over \$3,500 raised, and Parole Agent Amy Tracy, who dressed as Flo from the Progressive commercials, was recognized for best costume. The Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility was recognized for most money raised by a correctional facility with their \$6,000 donation. The entire Kent County Parole Office supported this year's team and helped to make this year's Turk Lake Polar Plunge an overwhelming success.





JACKSON'S COOPER STREET STAFF ASSIST ACCIDENT VICTIM

On December 26 Registered Nurse (RN) Barb Miller's 8-year-old granddaughter, Kaylee Gardner, was severely injured in a semi-truck/vehicle accident. Kaylee suffered severe facial and head injuries, two broken arms, as well as numerous cuts and bruises. When Debbie DeVirgilio, RN Miller's co-worker, learned of the terrible accident, she immediately suggested that the facility hold a fundraiser to assist with Kaylee's medical needs. Officer Julie Bridgewater and Sgt. Mark Longo organized a potluck to raise money. JCS employees raised over \$1,300 from the potluck and donations, including two \$25 gift certificates from Toys-R-Us and a Healing Angel pin. Jerri Nees and her daughter, Mackenzie, have sent Kaylee several care packages which included bracelets and rings that were made by MacKenzie. Mary Tomac, JCS's VPP Coordinator, made several beautiful get well cards to brighten Kaylee's day.



R to L: (Front Row) Reg. Nurse Barb Miller, Jerri Nees and Mary Tomac.
(Back Row) Ofc. Julie Bridgewater, Andrea Duncan and Debbie DeVirgilio

Kaylee has had one of the arm casts removed, but still faces more surgeries in the weeks and months to come. She was able to return to school in mid-February, but still has on-going medical needs. We are happy to know that Kaylee is healing from this devastating accident. Please keep Kaylee in your thoughts as she continues down the road to recovery.

MDOC BLACK KNIGHTS HOCKEY TEAM

On Saturday, January 4, the MDOC Black Knights charity hockey team took on the Detroit Chiefs, a team comprised of staff from the Detroit Police and Fire Departments. It was a great game; however, the Black Knights were edged out 6-2 by the Chiefs. The Black Knights' goals were scored by Correctional Transportation Officer Kris Bolan and Corrections Officer Sean Haskins. A total of \$1,880 was raised and donated to the college funds of fallen Corrections Officer Clarence Hammond's two sons.

The Black Knights have two upcoming events in March and April:

The Black Knights will play in the Copper Cup Tournament Friday, March 21 – Sunday, March 23. The tournament will take place at the Patterson Ice Arena located at 2550 Patterson Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan. All proceeds from this tournament will benefit the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Michigan.

On Saturday, April 5, the Black Knights are scheduled to play the Lenawee County Blue Knights. The proceeds from this game will benefit the family of fallen Lenawee County Corrections Officer Colby Butts who passed away unexpectedly in October of 2013. The game is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. at the Arrington Ice Arena located at 110 S. Madison Street, Adrian, Michigan. Please contact Lenawee County Sgt. Brett White at brett.white@lenawee.mi.us with questions or to make a donation.



MDOC AND MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENTER INTO UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP

The MDOC's Bureau of Health Care Services and the Michigan State University (MSU) College of Human Medicine have entered into an exceptional collaboration that will enhance the efficiency of Michigan's correctional health care system.

The MDOC has the ninth largest prison population in the country and managing the health care needs of the Department's population is challenging. The Department's partnership with MSU provides a unique opportunity to draw upon MSU's tremendous knowledge, experience and research proficiency to meet the distinctive challenges presented by the prisoner population.

The collaboration between the Department and MSU will include: the creation of a corrections/community public health care model; the development of a population health and disease management approach to correctional health care; the creation of a prisoner health education and prevention model; MDOC professional staff development; research; medical student rotations, and specialized physician consultation for special population/projects.

DEPARTMENT SCORECARDS

The Department is committed to keeping Department employees and the public informed of our performance management and process improvement efforts. As you may be aware, the Budget and Operations Administration (BOA), Correctional Facilities Administration (CFA), Field Operations Administration (FOA), and the Bureau of Health Care Services (BHCS) maintain scorecards that track specific metrics that are pertinent and important to each respective administration and bureau. Each administration's scorecard, along with the BHCS scorecard, can be found on the MDOC's website at http://www.michigan.gov/corrections/0,4551,7-119-1441_61220---,00.html. Additionally, the MDOC Department-Level Scorecard can be viewed on the 'Open Michigan' website at http://www.michigan.gov/openmichigan/0,4648,7-266-60201_60943---,00.html.



Each scorecard is updated monthly, so be sure to regularly check the sites provided above to view the Department's progress. If you have general questions in regard to the Department's scorecard efforts, you may contact R Cole Bouck at BouckR@michigan.gov. Questions that pertain to particular metrics should be directed to the appropriate administration or bureau.

SHARE YOUR POSITIVE PERSONAL STORIES

Personal Portrait shares the personal accomplishments and actions of our employees. If you know about something an employee has done that deserves some praise or credit, let us know! Email the story and photos to peterjohn14@michigan.gov. F.Y.I. will share their story with the rest of the MDOC family.

